

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend Paragraph [00034] in the Specification as amended in the previous paper to state:

[00034] In the most preferred embodiment, the inner planar surface (27) of the inner arms (10 and 26) of both clamp assemblies have a lower female connector (42) that engages an upper male mechanical connector (44). The upper male mechanical connector (44) is attached to the outer arms (20 and 28) of both clamp assemblies. The lower female connector (42) and the upper male connector (44) together comprise a rigid mechanical connection (40) that holds the outer and inner arms of the clamp assemblies together. The apparatus also contemplates that this connection can be a hinge to allow more flexible movement between the upper and lower clamps and between the inner and outer arms of the upper clamp. ~~The planar surfaces of the upper and lower half of the clamp can be held together by either a rigid or flexible mechanical connection. In the rigid connection, the upper planar surface fits snugly into the lower planar surface forming an interference type fit (44 into 42). Alternatively, the upper planar surface can be secured to the lower planar surface by gluing, ultrasonic welding, or by using mechanical connections, such as screwing or riveting the surfaces together at the midpoint. In the flexible connection, the upper and lower planar surfaces can be connected in a variety of manners. The upper and lower planar surfaces can be connected by a slightly less tight fit than in the rigid connection (44 into 42). The less tight fit allows for some tolerance between the parts, thereby allowing the arms to flex around joint. The upper and lower planar surfaces can have a flexible connection based on material selection. The upper and lower planar surfaces can be made of a flexible plastic that allows for "spring-like" movement of the arms relative to the mechanical connection. Alternatively, a spring can be added between the upper and lower planar surfaces, wherein each end of the spring connects the upper and lower planar surfaces, thereby forming a flexible mechanical connection.~~

Applicant believes no new matter has been added with these amendments.